

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A portable device comprising:
 - a display comprising a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face;
 - a light detector for detecting light incident on at least part of the display;
 - a comparator for comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and
 - a controller controlling an illuminator for illuminating the display in dependence upon an output of the comparator; and wherein
 - the light detector is positioned adjacent to and faces the reverse face to simultaneously receive a light level that represents a total of light contributing to illumination of the display, which is the sum of light received simultaneously from the illuminator and light incident on the display; and further wherein the controller is arranged to control illumination of the display based on the comparison between a threshold level and ~~of~~ the sum of the light received simultaneously from the illumination and light incident on the display.
2. A portable device according to claim 1 wherein the light detector is located behind the display, remote from the surface of the display onto which the ambient light is incident.
3. (currently amended) A device claimed in claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to disables the illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected exceeds a first threshold.
4. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 2 wherein the controller is configured to enables the illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected is less than a second threshold.
5. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 3 wherein the controller is

configured to enables the illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected is less than a second threshold.

6. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the controller is arranged to partially enables the illuminator in response to an indication by the comparator that the light detected is between the first and second thresholds.

7. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a means for determinator for determining a change in output of the light detector over a predetermined period, and wherein the controller means-is arranged to disable functionality relating to the display in response to an indication that no change is determined.

8. A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the controller is arranged to disable the display in response to an indication that no change is determined.

9. A device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the controller is arranged to disable the illuminator in response to an indication that no change is determined.

10. A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the display comprises input means responsive to a user.

11. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the controller is configured to controls the functionality relating to the display on the basis of settings input by the user via the input means.

12. A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the input means comprises touch means.

13. A device as claimed in claim 1, which is a portable communications device such as a radiotelephone.

14. (currently amended) A method of controlling a ~~hand~~portable hand device including a display comprising a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face and an illuminator for illuminating the display, the method comprising:

detecting with a light detector faced adjacent to and facing the reverse face of the display to simultaneously receive a light level that represents the total light contributing to display illumination, which is the sum of the light received simultaneously from the illuminator and the ambient light incident on at least part of the display;

comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and

controlling illumination of the display in dependence upon the output of the ~~comparator~~, between based on a threshold level and the of a sum of the light received from the illuminator and the light incident on the display.

15. (currently amended) A display module for an electronic device, the display module comprising:

a display panel having a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face;

an illuminator for illuminating the display panel;

a light detector faced adjacent to the reverse face of the display panel positioned adjacent to and facing the reverse face of the display panel to simultaneously detect light, wherein the which light is the sum of ambient light incident on at least part of the display and the light from the illuminator;

a comparator for comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and

a controller controlling the illuminator in dependence on the output of the comparator based on a threshold level of a sum of the light received from the illuminator and the light incident on the display.

16. (currently amended) A display comprising:

a display element comprising a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face;
a light detector ~~faced~~positioned adjacent to ~~and facing~~ the reverse face for detecting the light incident on at least part of the surface of a display element;
a comparator for comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and
a controller controlling an illuminator for illuminating the display in dependence upon the output of the comparator; and wherein
the light detector is positioned to simultaneously receive a light level that represents the total light contributing to illumination of the display, which is ~~at~~ the sum of the light received from the illuminator and the ambient light incident on the display, and the controller is configured to control the illuminator based on a threshold level and the ~~of~~ a sum of the light received from the illuminator and the light incident on the display.

17-19. (Cancelled).

20. (currently amended) A display module for an electronic device, the display module comprising:

a display panel having a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face;
an illuminator for illuminating the display panel;
a light detector ~~faced~~positioned adjacent to ~~and facing~~ the reverse face for detecting light incident on at least part of the display panel, the light detector being positioned ~~adjacent to and facing the reverse face of the display panel to~~ simultaneously detect the total light incident on the ~~display device~~, which light is the sum of ambient light and the light from the illuminator;
a comparator for comparing the light detected by the light detector with a given threshold; and
control means for controlling the illuminator in dependence on the output of the comparator based on a threshold level of a sum of the light received from the illuminator and the light incident on the display.

21. (Cancelled).

22. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein:
the touch means comprises a key.

23. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein:
the touch means comprises a display region.

24. A device as claimed in claim 12 wherein:
the touch means comprises a key and a display region.

25. (New) Apparatus for displaying comprising:
means for displaying having a front face to be viewed by a user and a reverse face;
means for detecting light, faced adjacent to the reverse face of the means for displaying,
to detect the light incident on at least part of the surface of the means for displaying;
means for comparing the light detected with a given threshold; and
means for controlling a means for illuminating the means for displaying, in dependence
upon the output of the means for comparing; and wherein
the means for detecting light is positioned to simultaneously receive light levels that
represent the total light contributing to the illumination of the means for displaying, which is
the sum of the light received simultaneously from the means for illuminating and the ambient
light incident on the means for displaying, and further wherein the means for controlling is
configured to control the means of illuminating based on a comparison between the threshold
and the sum of light received simultaneously from the means for illuminating and the light
incident on the means for displaying.